

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) Disc drive apparatus (1) for writing and/or reading information into and/or from a disc (2), comprising:
a controllable motor (4) for rotating a disc (2);
a control unit (90) having a first output (91) for generating a control signal (S_{CM}) for said motor (4);
wherein the control unit (90) is designed to be capable of operating in a FAN mode (SM2) in which said motor (4) is rotated without any writing and/or reading being executed by the disc drive apparatus.

2. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising temperature measuring means (50) for generating a measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) occurring within the disc drive apparatus, the temperature measuring means (50) preferably being arranged for measuring the temperature of a disc drive component;
wherein said control unit (90) has a signal input (95) coupled to said temperature measuring means (50), and is designed to enter said FAN mode (SM2) in response to the measuring signal (S_T) received from said temperature measuring means (50).

3. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to enter (step 203) said FAN mode (SM2) if, at the completion of a write/read operation, said measuring signal (S_T) indicates a temperature (T) above a first threshold temperature (T1), for instance 60 °C.

4. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to monitor said measuring signal (S_T) during a write/read operation, to set (step 211) a first flag (FT1) in response to receiving the measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) above a first threshold temperature (T1), for instance 60 °C, and to enter (step 214) said FAN mode (SM2) if, at the completion of a write/read operation, said first flag (FT1) is set.

5. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to monitor said measuring signal (S_T) during a write/read operation, and to reset (step 213) said first flag (FT1) in response to receiving the measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) below said first threshold temperature (T1).

6. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 1-5~~claim 1, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to
set, in said FAN mode (SM2), a rotational speed of said motor (4)
at a predetermined safety value (ω_2) selected for optimum cooling
effect.

7. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 1-6~~claim 1, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to
set, in said FAN mode (SM2), a rotational speed of said motor (4)
at a predetermined safety value (ω_2) selected for low audibility.

8. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 1-7~~claim 1, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to
start (step 215) a first timer (TIM1) on transition to said FAN
mode (SM2), and to exit said FAN mode (SM2) after a first
predetermined time (p1) determined by said first timer (TIM1).

9. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
said control unit (90) is designed to monitor said measuring signal
(S_T) during a write/read operation, to set (step 222; step 232) a
timer (TIM2; TIM3) in response to receiving the measuring signal
(S_T) indicating a temperature (T) above a second threshold
temperature (T2) higher than said first threshold temperature (T1),

for instance 70 °C, and to enter said FAN mode (SM2) if, after a predetermined time (p2; p3) determined by said timer (TIM1; TIM3), said measuring signal (S_T) still indicates a temperature (T) above said second threshold temperature (T2).

10. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of claims 1-9~~claim 1, wherein the control unit (90) is designed to be capable of operating in a duty cycle mode (DCM) in which the control unit (90) is alternatingly operative in a normal mode portion (NMP) during which writing/reading is performed, and in an energy saving mode portion (ESMP) during which writing/reading is temporarily suspended while rotation of said motor (4) is continued.

11. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the control unit (90) is designed to maintain the rotational speed of the motor (4) substantially constant during the duty cycle mode (DCM).

12. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 10-~~or 11~~, wherein the duty cycle mode (DCM) has a cycle duration selected in the range of 1-10 sec, preferably in the order of about 5 sec.

13. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 12-14~~claim 12, wherein the duty cycle mode (DCM) has a duty
cycle in the order of about 50%.

14. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 10-13~~claim 10, comprising temperature measuring means (50)
for generating a measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T)
occurring within the disc drive apparatus, the temperature
measuring means (50) preferably being arranged for measuring the
temperature of a disc drive component;
wherein said control unit (90) has a signal input (95) coupled to
said temperature measuring means (50), and is designed to monitor
said measuring signal (S_T) during a write/read operation, and to
enter said duty cycle mode (DCM) in response to receiving the
measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) above a second
threshold temperature (T_2) higher than said first threshold
temperature (T_1).

15. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 10-14~~claim 10, comprising temperature measuring means (50)
for generating a measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T)
occurring within the disc drive apparatus, the temperature

measuring means (50) preferably being arranged for measuring the temperature of a disc drive component; wherein said control unit (90) has a signal input (95) coupled to said temperature measuring means (50), and is designed to monitor said measuring signal (S_T) during a write/read operation, to set a timer in response to receiving the measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) above said second threshold temperature (T_2), and to enter said duty cycle mode (DCM) if, after a predetermined time determined by said timer, said measuring signal (S_T) still indicates a temperature (T) above a second threshold temperature (T_2) higher than said first threshold temperature (T_1).

16. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of claims 1-15~~claim 1, wherein the control unit (90) is designed to be capable of operating in a first safety mode (SM1) during which writing/reading is performed at a first predetermined safety speed (ω_1).

17. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 16 ~~as far as depending on claim 15~~, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to make a transition to said first safety mode (SM1) in response to receiving the measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) above said second threshold temperature (T_2), and

to make a transition from said first safety mode (SM1) to said duty cycle mode (DCM) if, after said predetermined time determined by said timer, said measuring signal (S_T) still indicates a temperature (T) above said second threshold temperature (T2).

18. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the disc drive apparatus is an optical disc drive apparatus comprising a controllable light beam generator (31), typically a laser; wherein said control unit (90) has a second output (92) for generating a control signal (S_{CL}) for said light beam generator (31); and wherein the control unit (90) is designed to switch OFF said light beam generator (31) while operating in said FAN mode (SM2).

19. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 18, comprising temperature measuring means (50) for generating a measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) occurring within the disc drive apparatus, the temperature measuring means (50) being arranged for measuring the temperature of said light beam generator (31).

20. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to any of the previous claimsclaim 1, further comprising at least one controllable functional unit (40); wherein said control unit (90) has a third output (94) for generating a control signal (S_{CU}) for said functional unit (40); and wherein the control unit (90) is designed to switch OFF said functional unit (40) while operating in said FAN mode (SM2).

21. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to any of the previous claimsclaim 1, wherein the control unit (90) is designed to be capable of operating in a FAN2 TURNTABLE (SM4) mode in which said motor (4) is rotated without a disc being present.

22. (original) Disc drive apparatus according to claim 21, comprising temperature measuring means (50) for generating a measuring signal (S_T) indicating a temperature (T) occurring within the disc drive apparatus, the temperature measuring means (50) preferably being arranged for measuring the temperature of a disc drive component; wherein said control unit (90) has a signal input (95) coupled to said temperature measuring means (50), and is designed to enter (step 272) said FAN2 TURNTABLE (SM4) mode if, in an idle state with

no disc loaded, said measuring signal (S_T) indicates a temperature (T) above a threshold temperature (T_1), for instance 60 °C.

23. (currently amended) Disc drive apparatus according to ~~any of claims 21 or 22~~ claim 21, wherein said control unit (90) is designed to start (step 273) a fifth timer (TIM5) on transition to said FAN2 TURNTABLE (SM4) mode, and to exit said FAN2 TURNTABLE (SM4) mode after a fifth predetermined time (p5) determined by said fifth timer (TIM5).